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(54) SYSTEM AND METHOD OF GENERATING A MEDICATION PRESCRIPTION

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(57) ABSTRACT

System and method are provided wherein a physician uses a handheld terminal to tap and select a prescription. At the time of writing the prescription, the terminal has information regarding the patient's drug insurance benefits (formulary

compliance), as well as other patient medical history such as medications that the patient may currently be taking (drug utilization review) and any allergies. This patient information may be provided to the terminal from a database through the Web, a modem or an access point. Using this information the physician is able to provide the optimal patient prescription. The terminal has capabilities for voice recognition, biometric identification and GPS locator so that the prescribing physician's identity and location can be positively identified. The positive physician identification (biometric) and positive physician location (GPS) are important because in a wireless wide area network environment, only the authorized physician may prescribe drugs and route drugs in the state the physician is licensed in. The prescription is printed out to a printer connected to the terminal by infra-red at the time of the prescribing so that one print-out is given to the patient and another fixed to the patient's chart. The prescription is printed in regular alphanumeric letters as well as encoded in a machine readable code, such as PDF 417 or encoded in a smart card so that when it is brought to the pharmacy, the prescription data are automatically entered, reducing human errors. A refill notice is sent out to the patient, wherein the refill notice has the most recent formulary compliance and drug utilization review information in machine readable code so that the patient can take that information to the next visit to the physician's office. The machine readable code may also include the diagnoses for which the drugs are being prescribed and the insurance companies may use this information to selectively authorize use of certain drugs.

